



City of Laurel

401 N. 5th Avenue
Laurel, MS 39440
www.laurelms.com

Regular Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

- Present:** 6 - Councilperson Jason Capers, Councilperson Tony Wheat, Vice President Tony Thaxton, Councilperson Travares Comegys, Councilperson Stacy Comegys and Councilperson Anthony Page
- Absent:** 1 - Council President George Carmichael
- Staff:** 4 - Mayor Johnny Magee, City Attorney Deidra Bassi, City Council Clerk Sharon King and Deputy Council Clerk Judith Denham

PRAYER

Councilperson Tony Thaxton

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. [ID 18-2862](#)

January 16, 2018

Attachments: [CoL Minutes of 011618](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, seconded by Councilperson Travares Comegys, that the Minutes be approved. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

1. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilperson Travares Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Tony Wheat, that the agenda be amended as follows. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Delete Agenda Item 3A2 (A&B)., Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on February 6, 2018 to determine whether or not the properties are in such a state of uncleanliness.

A. Phyllis Landcaster, 321 N. Pine Street – unclean property

B. James Burroughs, 704 Herbert Avenue – unclean property

Add Agenda Item 4M., Consider adopting an Order approving the request allowing the Laurel Police Department to accept a bid from Fleet Safety and Kustom Signals for vehicle equipment.

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

2. PRESENTATION AGENDA

A. [ID 18-2837](#)

Presentation of the City's Arbor Day Proclamation to members of the Laurel Tree Board.

Attachments: [Executed Proclamation Tree Board](#)

There was a presentation of the City's Arbor Day Proclamation which was presented to the Laurel Tree Board.

B. [ID 18-2881](#)

Mayor Magee's Presentation of the State of the City.

Attachments: [Mayor Magee State Of City 2017](#)

This Presentation was presented. Please see attachment.

3. PUBLIC AGENDA**A. PUBLIC HEARING****1. SET PUBLIC HEARING****A. [ID 18-2869](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to set a date of March 6, 2018 to conduct a public hearing in regard to the properties listed to determine whether or not the properties are in such a state of uncleanliness so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community.

a) Selvin Cox, unclean property at 2263 Palmer Ave., PPIN 11111, WD 7

b) Sherren Taylor, property in need of demolition at 336 N 14th Ave, PPIN 8918, WD 6

Attachments: [setsformarch62018](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Travares Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, that the Order to Set Hearing be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

2. CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING

A motion was made by Councilperson Travares Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, to conduct a public hearing. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

A. [ID 18-2870](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on February 6, 2018 in regard to the property at 321 N Pine St, which is owned by Phyllis Landcaster, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of uncleanliness so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. WARD 5

Attachments: [phyllislandcaster321npineresolutionfeb62018](#)

This Resolution to Conduct Hearing was deleted during Confirmation of Agenda

B. [ID 18-2871](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on February 6, 2018 in regard to the property at 704 Herbert Ave, which is owned by James Burroughs, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of uncleanliness so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. WARD 5

Attachments: [jamesburroughs704herbertresolutionfeb62018](#)

This Resolution to Conduct Hearing was deleted during Confirmation of Agenda

C. [ID 18-2873](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on February 6, 2018 in regard to the property at 507 S Maple St, which is owned by Clyde D Carter Est, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of uncleanliness so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. WARD 6

Attachments: [clydecarter507maplestresolutiondemofeb62018](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Travares Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, that the Resolution be adopted as amended. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

B. CITIZENS HEARING**C. CITIZENS FORUM**

Vice President Tony Thaxton recognized Trey Chinn, 1119 McConkey St., Mr. Chinn addressed the council about the appointment of Ms. Jennifer McLeod to the Laurel School Board, he wanted the board to ask and answer questions he felt were important to confirming the appointment, such as Ms. McLeod's children do not attend Laurel School System, and is it a conflict of interest with her business, Central Creativity, which is a student resource enrichment program. Also he stated the Laurel School district has a policy in place asking their teachers and staff to take cultural competency, he stated that was very important considering 90% of the Laurel School district was black.

4. POLICY AGENDA**A. [ID 18-2867](#)**

Consider adopting an Order authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into a contract with Butler Snow to file the Continuing Disclosure Statement on behalf of the City of Laurel, Mississippi.

Attachments: [order - Cont Disclosure State 2018](#)
[2018 Continuing Disclosure Engagement Letter - City of Laurel MS \(FY 2017\) 40320825_1-Copy](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Travares Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

B. [ID 18-2878](#)

Consider adopting an Ordinance which corrects the legal description of the Sportsplex property as found in the zoning change adopted under Ordinance 1671-2017.

Attachments: [sportplexzoningcorrection2018](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, seconded by Councilperson Travares Comegys, that the correction of Ordinance 1671-2017 be approved. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

C. [ID 18-2861](#)

Consider adopting an Order confirming the appointment of Mrs. Jenny McLeod to the Board of Trustees of the Laurel Municipal Separate School District

Attachments: [ORDAppSchoolBoardMcLeod2018.doc](#)
[ORDAppSchoolBoardMcLeod2018Bio.doc](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, seconded by Vice President Tony Thaxton, that the Order be adopted.

Following discussion, Councilperson S. Comegys moved to postpone the motion indefinitely, seconded by Councilperson T. Comegys. Upon roll call vote, the results were as follows:

Yeas: S. Comegys, T. Comegys, Page
Nays: Capers, Wheat Thaxton
Absent: Carmichael
Abstain: None

Vice-President Thaxton declared the motion failed.

Councilperson S. Comegys moved to postpone the motion until the next Council meeting, seconded by Councilperson T. Comegys. Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:

Yeas: Wheat, S. Comegys, T. Comegys, Page
Nays: Capers, Thaxton
Absent: Carmichael
Abstain: None

Vice-President Thaxton declared the motion to postpone until the next Council meeting carried, this the 6th day of February, A. D., 2018.

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

D. [ID 18-2860](#)

Consider adopting an Order regarding the re-appointment of Mr. John Milham to the Board of Trustees of the Laurel/Jones County Library System.

Attachments: [ORDAppLibraryBoardMilham2018.docx](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, seconded by Councilperson Travares Comegys, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

E. [ID 18-2877](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution granting authority to close-out the Highway 15 and 12th Street Traffic Signal Installation.

Attachments: [Resolution](#)
[Close Out Packet](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, seconded by Councilperson Travares Comegys, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

F. [ID 18-2876](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution granting authority to award construction of the 5th Ave and 13th Ave Utility Improvements Project.

Attachments: [Resolution](#)
[Certified Bid Tabulation](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Travares Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Tony Wheat, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

G. [ID 18-2865](#)

Consider adopting an Order allowing the Laurel Police Department to apply for the Mississippi Department of Safety, FY2019 Highway Safety Grant.

Attachments: [FY19 Highway Safety Grant order](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, seconded by Vice President Tony Thaxton, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

H. [ID 18-2859](#)

Consider adopting an Order authorizing payment of travel expenses incurred by Mayor Johnny Magee while attending the Annual Affordable Housing Conference sponsored by the Mississippi Home Corporation.

Attachments: [ORDTravHousingAffordableConferenceMarch2018.doc](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Jason Capers, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

I. [ID 18-2866](#)

Consider adopting an Order to approve travel and registration for Kristal Jones and Mary Ann Hess to attend the 48th Annual Spring Conference of the Mississippi Municipal Clerks and Collectors Association March 07-09, 2018 in Flowood, MS.

Attachments: [Travel and Registration Order.docx](#)
[2018 Spring Conference Agenda.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Travares Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

J. [ID 18-2868](#)

Consider adopting an Order authorizing advertisement of Notice of a Public Hearing related to a proposed application to the Mississippi Development Authority for a Small Cities Community Development Block Grant with which to implement a public facilities project.

Attachments: [CDBG2018PublicFacilitiesORDAuthorizePublicationADPublicHearingNoticeInitial.doc](#)
[CDBG2018PublicFacilitiesPublicORDAuthorizePublicationADPublicHearingInitialExhibitAAD.PF.doc](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, seconded by Councilperson Tony Wheat, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

K. [ID 18-2874](#)

Consider adopting an Order to approve lot cleaning assessments on the following properties:

A. Demolition and cleaning of property after demolition in regard to property belonging to Acre Land Acquisition Co LLC, which is located at 1134 Capital St. Total Cost including \$75 administrative fee \$2309.70 WD 7

Attachments: [LOT CLEANINGASSESSMENTSFORFEBRUARY6 backupforfeb6assessment20180129_15421200](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Travares Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Jason Capers, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

L. [ID 18-2880](#)

Consider adopting an Order accepting a rebate check for five hundred fifty-two dollars (\$552.00) from Hometown Publishing for use by the Laurel Fire Department.

Attachments: [Council Order Hometown Publishing 2018 hpcheck](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Travares Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Jason Capers, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

M. [ID 18-2882](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving the request of the Laurel Police Department being allowed to accept a bid from Fleet Safety and Kustom Signals for the purchase of equipment for the police vehicles.

Attachments: [VEHICLE EQUIPMENT BID DOC013118-01312018163553](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, seconded by Councilperson Jason Capers, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

5. ROUTINE AGENDA

A. [ID 18-2875](#)

Consider adopting an Order to ratify the publication of notice of hearing for the February 22, 2018 Zoning public hearing.

Attachments: [phz0218](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, seconded by Councilperson Travares Comegys, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

B. [ID 18-2879](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to approve the claims docket.

Attachments: [CLAIMS DOCKET RESOLUTION ONLY](#)
[CLAIMS DOCKET FEBRUARY 06 2018](#)
[WARRANT FEBRUARY 06 2018](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, seconded by Councilperson Travares Comegys, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Absent: 1 - George Carmichael

EXECUTIVE SESSION